

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 269293
ORIGIN OES-07

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

UNCLAS STATE 269293

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, AR

SUBJECT: R/V ROBERT D. CONRAD CLEARANCE REQUEST, 10 JAN -
12 FEB 1978

1. R/V ROBERT D. CONRAD, A PRIVATE VESSEL OPERATED BY THE LAMONT-DOHERTY GEOLOGICAL OBSERVATORY OF COLOMBIA UNIVERSITY, IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OFF THE COAST OF ARGENTINA. THE RESEARCH IS FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AND WILL INVOLVE SEISMIC AND GEOPHYSICAL STUDIES. A 24-CHANNEL MULTICHANNEL SEISMIC REFLECTION (MCS) SYSTEM AND SONOBUOY REFLECTION/REFRACTION SYSTEM WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE THE STRUCTURAL RELATIONSHIP OF THE FALKLAND PLATEAU, FALKLAND TROUGH, NORTH SCOTIA RIDGE, AND SCOTIA SEA WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF THE EXPECTED CONSEQUENCES OF PLATE TECTONICS. THE OBJECTIVES ARE TO DISTINGUISH PRE-DRIFT AND POST-DRIFT SEDIMENTS AND DISTINGUISH ACOUSTIC BASEMENT AND TRUE CRYSTALLINE BASEMENT OF THE FALKLAND PLATEAU; AND, THUS, CORRELATE STRUCTURE OF THE PLATEAU WITH THAT OF THE AGULHAS SHELF OF SOUTH AFRICA;

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DETERMINE THE VELOCITY STRUCTURE ACROSS THE CONTINENTAL-OCEAN JUNCTURE OF THE FALKLAND PLATEAU AND FALKLAND TROUGH; DETERMINE THE STRUCTURE OF THE NORTH SCOTIA RIDGE; AND DETERMINE THE STRUCTURE AND PATTERN AND INTENSITY OF FOLDING AND FAULTING IN THE AREA OF A SUPPOSED EXTINCT SUBDUCTION ZONE WHICH PRESENTLY IS MANIFESTED BY THE FALKLAND TROUGH. ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE STUDY IS TO

SEISMICALLY DETERMINE THE STRUCTURE ACROSS THE CONTINENT-OCEAN CRUST BOUNDARY IN TWO STRUCTURALLY DIVERSE AREAS OF THE OUTER ARGENTINE CONTINENTAL SHELF.

2. THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS ARE WILLIAM J. LUDWIG AND PHILIP D. RABINOWITZ, BOTH OF LAMONT-DOHERTY. LT. COMMANDER ALFREDO A. YUNG OF AUNADA ARGENTINA, SERVICO DE HYDROGRAFIA NAVAL DEPARTAMENTO OCEANOGRafia, HAS BEEN SENT A COPY OF THE RESEARCH PROGRAM. ARGENTINE SCIENTISTS ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE ON THE CRUISE AND TWO BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE; HOWEVER, PRIVATE SINGLE ROOMS ARE NOT. ALL DATA RESULTS WOULD BE FREELY SHARED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ARGENTINA.

3. THE SHIP'S MASTER IS J. P. OLANDER WITH A CREW OF 25 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 15. CONRAD IS 1073 GROSS TONS, 208 FT. LONG, AND HAS A 15 FT. DRAFT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS WHBA AND SHIP MONITORS EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES.

4. EQUIPMENT TO BE USED INCLUDES SATELLITE NAVIGATOR, PRECISION DEPTH RECORDER, SEISMIC SYSTEMS, GRAVIMETER, AND MAGNETOMETER.

5. PORT CALLS ARE SCHEDULED FOR RIO DE JANEIRO, 10 JAN., AND FOR PUNTA ARENAS, 12 FEB. PORT CALLS WILL BE ARRANGED BY SHIP'S AGENT.

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6. A STATION LOCATION CHART IS BEING POUCHED.

7. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR R/V ROBERT D. CONRAD TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OFF ARGENTINE COAST DURING 10 JAN - 12 FEB 1978. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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